

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	
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Eugenio BIGLIERI et al.	)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
	)	
Application No.: Unassigned	)	Examiner: Unassigned
	)	
Filed: February 26, 2004	)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
	)	
For: NUCLEAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE	)	
IMAGING APPARATUS	)	
	)	
	)	

**FIRST**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

All of the listed documents were previously made of record in prior Application Serial No. 10/154,909, filed May 28, 2002, upon which Applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the listed documents, except those documents which were previously made of record in the prior application, is enclosed.

The Examiner's attention is directed to parent application number 10/154,909, naming Eugenio Biglieri and Osvaldo Pugliese as inventors and filed on May 28, 2002, and the documents cited therein. See application publication no. US-2002-0175685-A1.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a prior art search has been made.

In addition, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that each of the references submitted herewith is in fact prior art with respect to the

present application, or that each of the references is considered to be material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

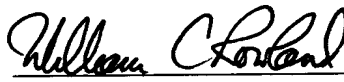
The documents are being submitted within 3 months of the filing and before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: February 26, 2004

By:   
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Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO  <b>FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>	ATTORNEY'S DKT NO. 008788-080	APPLICATION NO. Unassigned
	APPLICANT Eugenio BIGLIERI et al.	
	FILING DATE February 26, 2004	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)
	6,339,717		Baumgartl et al.	01-15-2002
	6,346,814	B1	Carrozzi et al.	02-12-2002
	6,377,830	B1	Carrozzi et al.	04-23-2002
	5,662,109		Hutson	09-02-1997
	5,348,020		Hutson	09-20-1994
	5,245,587		Hutson	09-14-1993
	5,490,516		Hutson	02-13-1996
	5,175,710		Hutson	12-29-1992
	6,430,428	B1	Lindstedt	08-06-2002
	4,885,538		Hoenniger, III et al.	12-05-1989
	6,366,094	B1	Vassallo et al.	04-02-2002
	6,348,793	B1	Balloni et al.	02-19-2002
	6,362,620	B1	Debbins et al.	03-26-2002

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation Yes No	
	09-319516		Japan	12-12-1997	X	
	96/32065		WIPO	10-17-1996		
	1 004 269	A1	EPO	05-31-2000		
	1 262 786	A3	EPO	12-04-2002		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.